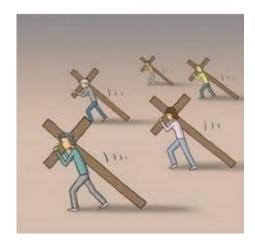
Sunday Worship September 3, 2023 Time After Pentecost



Take up your cross and follow me

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WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP CELEBRATION!

Thanks for coming to be with us at Zion Lutheran Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time, will you please fill out a visitor card, available in the pew rack in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate. Whether this is your first visit or you worship here regularly, we are delighted that you chose to share with us. We worship together on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 a.m. If you have a "prayer request" or a "praise report", please let the pastor know. God bless you on your journey of faith.

INTRODUCTION

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE What a Friend We Have in Jesus Arr. Victor Labenske

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be God, the One who forms us **+** Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow You. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and Your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from You and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to You and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen. P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven

C: Amen.

HYMN Purple hymnal #1043

Spirit, Open My Heart

GREETING / PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray . . .

O God, we thank You for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow Your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

KYRIE Red hymnal #120

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE Red hymnal #121

C: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. For You alone are the Holy One

You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

R: ¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

R: ¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

C: ²Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

R: ³For Your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with You.

C: ⁴I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

R: ⁵I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

C: ⁶I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round Your altar,

R: ⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

C: ⁸LORD, I love the house in which You dwell and the place where Your glory abides.

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

R: ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

R: The Word of the Lord C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Red Hymnal #401

C: Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading, fashion us all anew. It's Your leading that we're needing, help us to follow You. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come.

Come to teach us, come to nourish those who believe in Christ. Bless the faithful, may they flourish, strengthened by grace unpriced. Come, come, come Holy Spirit come. Come, come Holy Spirit come.

HOLY GOSPEL

P: The Gospel according to **Matthew 16:21-28**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves

and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON Kristen Zimmann

HYMN Red Hymnal #798 (v1,4,5)

Will You Come and Follow Me

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Let us confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS (Response after each petition)

P: Lord in your mercy,
C: Hear our prayer . . .

OFFERING—Invitation—God's Work Continues

OFFERTORY SONG #674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen
and heard. Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the

Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The God of glory, **+** Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever

C: Amen.

HYMN Red hymnal #504

A Mighty Fortress

DISMISSAL

P: What is the mission of Zion Lutheran Church?
C: The mission of Zion Lutheran Church is:
"Serving Christ through serving others."

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Open Our Eyes/Be Thou My Vision Arr. Mark Hayes

The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by Pam & Matt Sauls in celebration of their 3 grandchildren.

Prayer concerns for Zion's prayer chain may be submitted using a 'Prayer Request' card from the pew rack.

In Helpful Service

Worship Leader Kristen Zimmann
Acolyte Charlotte Dorn
Reader Lilian Nichols
Usher Jessica Dorn

Greeters Dale & Debbie Rudsill

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION OF THE MONTH: MIAMI COUNTY FAMILY ABUSE SHELTER

Here are some examples of NEW, unopened donations they will gladly accept:

PJ's – Adult & child Toothbrushes & toothpaste Blankets
Toilet paper Lysol wipes Baby wipes
Trash bags Shampoo Baby clothes

Paper towels Conditioner Children's clothes 1-8

Tissues Deodorant Toys

Cleaning products
Twin sheets
Body wash
Feminine hygiene products
Canned Formula
Diapers (all sizes)

Thrivent monies will be accessed to help with this project. If you have questions, contact Ginger Schaefer at 419-250-0236.

SUNDAY SCHOOL for adults, youth and kids begins on September 10th at 9:00 a.m.

GARAGE SALE: The Mum Festival Garage Sale sign-up is up and waiting for you to put your name on it! We need workers! We will feed you and we promise you'll have a good time! We also need paper grocery sacks for the bag sale and some plastic bags. You can bring these in and put them in the Fellowship Hall after September 16th.

SIMPLY GIVE: The Needy Basket Food Pantry is participating in the Meijer *Simply Give* program at the Troy store now through September 30. The program encourages customers to purchase \$10 *Simply Give* donation cards, which are then converted into Meijer food-only gift cards for use by Needy Basket. In addition, Meijer will double match any cards purchase on Saturday, September 9, effectively tripling contributions made on that day.

In addition to purchasing cards at the Troy store, donations can also be sent directly to Needy Basket at 330 South Fifth St., Tipp City, OH 45371, for submission on a double match day. The *Simply Give* program is a way for Meijer customer to support the food banks and pantries that feed families in need in their own communities.